



## Implementing Health Insurance Exchanges: Pennsylvania

### Establishing the Exchange

In 2011, the Pennsylvania legislature introduced two bills establishing a state-based health insurance exchange (HB 627, SB 940).<sup>1,2</sup> There has been no action on either bill since April 2011, and both houses adjourn in late November. While a report released in January 2011 by the Commonwealth Health Care Reform Implementation Advisory Committee supported the development of state-based active purchaser exchange, Pennsylvania Insurance Department officials say they have yet to decide if they will recommend developing a state exchange.<sup>3</sup>

### Exchange Funding

In September 2010, the Pennsylvania Insurance Department was awarded a \$1 million federal Exchange Planning grant.

### Next Steps

In August 2011, the Pennsylvania Insurance Department hosted three open forums to gather public input on exchanges.<sup>4</sup> Feedback gathered from numerous stakeholders including, representatives from the hospital industry, consumer advocates, small businesses, brokers, and health insurers, will be used to further inform the state's decision on whether or not to move forward with a state-run exchange.

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<sup>1</sup>House Bill 627. Referred to Committee February 14, 2011.

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&sessYr=2011&sessInd=0&billBoddy=H&billTyp=B&billNbr=0627&pn=0628>

<sup>2</sup>Senate Bill 940. Referred to Banking and Insurance April 25, 2011.

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&sessYr=2011&sessInd=0&billBoddy=S&billTyp=B&billNbr=0940&pn=1073>

<sup>3</sup> The Commonwealth Health Care Reform Implementation Advisory Committee Final Report. January 2011.

<http://www.ohcr.state.pa.us/assets/HCIMeetingMaterials/FINALREPORT.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Pennsylvania Department of Insurance. Press Release. July 18, 2011.

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=17319&PageID=502655&mode=2&contentid=http://pubcontent.state.pa.us/publishedcontent/publish/cop\\_hhs/insurance/news\\_and\\_media/news\\_media/articles/july\\_18\\_2011.html](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=17319&PageID=502655&mode=2&contentid=http://pubcontent.state.pa.us/publishedcontent/publish/cop_hhs/insurance/news_and_media/news_media/articles/july_18_2011.html)